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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

COUNTRY Poland

REPORT

25X1

SUBJECT 1. Organization of the Internal Security Corps (KBW)
2. Role of the KBW in the October 1956 Events

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General

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1. Operationally, the Internal Security Corps (Korpus Bezpieczenstwa Wewnetrznego - KBW) is subordinate to the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MSW), while in regard to organization and discipline it is subordinate to the Ministry of National Defense (MON). The counterpart of the District Military Command (DOW) is the KBW Headquarters Command Staff.
2. The functions of the KBW vary according to the prevailing political climate and security situation in Poland. During the period from 1945 to 1949, the KBW was primarily engaged in combating armed underground organizations and protecting government installations. Concomitant with the consolidation of the postwar regime and the stabilization of internal security, the personnel establishment of the KBW was curtailed. During the period from 1950 until 1954, KBW personnel were primarily engaged in guard duties and, during this time, special attention was devoted to training. The KBW was subsequently transformed into a special force designed to combat airborne and seaborne assaults and, except for the guarding of a few especially important installations, most of the units were relieved of their guard duties. In 1955 and 1956, the KBW underwent further curtailment in personnel, and, pursuant to the events of October 1956, plans were made to incorporate the KBW into the army to serve as an independent defense corps against invasion.
3. The regular KBW service is 27 months. Because draftees are recruited every twelve months there are three months of each year in which the strength of the KBW exceeds its established capacity by 50 percent. In 1957, plans were therefore made to decrease the length of service to 24 months. Specialist officers (artillery, signals, "Q" Branch, etc.) are assigned to the KBW from MON schools, while other officers are sent from the KBW schools in Legnica (Liegnitz). The recruitment of draftees is effected by the WKR (Wojkowa Komisja Rejonowa), with representatives of the Joint Military Bureau of the KBW and the Frontier Guard (WOP) participating.
4. Since heavy artillery and tanks are not required by KBW units to fulfill their functions, such weapons are not allocated them. A brigade is equipped with approximately fifty trucks and armed with small arms, such as rifles, submachine guns and one light machinegun - R.K.N. (Reczny Karadin Maszynowy) -

59

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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1

-2-

per section.. Special stress is laid on the flexibility and maneuverability of KBW units. According to plan, sufficient transport will be allotted to the KBW to make it completely motorized by late 1957.

Organization

5. The Commander of the KBW, General Wlodzimierz Mus, is subordinate to the Commander of the WW¹, General Wacław Komar.
6. Military Bureau (Biuro Wojskowe), headed by Colonel Roman Garbowski. The bureau, which employs approximately 30 officers, is responsible for the recruitment and release of WOP and KBW personnel. Because the length of service is 27 months, servicemen are not discharged on the same dates as MON personnel.
7. Information Directorate (Zarząd Informacji), headed by Lt. Colonel Ogonowski. The directorate is subordinate to the Chief Directorate of Information (GZI) at MON and employs approximately 40 officers and noncommissioned officers.
8. KBW Headquarters Staff, headed by Chief of Staff Colonel Edward Koninski. The staff employs approximately 120 officers and noncommissioned officers and controls the following branches:
 - a. Branch I, Operations Branch (I-szy Oddział Operacyjny), which is headed by Lt. Colonel Rawski (fnu). The branch is responsible with planning operations, determining guard assignments, etc.
 - b. Branch II, Combat Training Branch (II-gi Oddział Wyszczolenia Bojowego), which is headed by Lt. Colonel Filistowicz (fnu). The branch is responsible for preparing training programs and supervising combat training.
 - c. Branch III, Communications Branch (III-ci Oddział Łączności), which is headed by Lt. Colonel Waś (fnu).
 - d. Branch IV, Organization Branch (IV-ty Oddział Organizacyjny), which is headed by Lt. Colonel Iliaszewicz (fnu). The branch deals with personnel matters, records, posting of units, etc.
 - e. Branch V, Cipher Branch (V-ty Oddział Szyfrowy), which is headed by Major Skrobisz (fnu).
 - f. Branch VI, Emergency Branch (VI-ty Oddział-Mob), which is headed by Major Marciniak (fnu). The branch is responsible for war establishments for personnel and equipment.
9. Political Directorate (Zarząd Polityczny), headed by Colonel Mieczysław Putechny. The directorate employs approximately 40 officers and noncommissioned officers and controls the following branches:
 - a. Branch I, Organization Branch (I-szy Oddział Organizacyjny), which is headed by Lt. Colonel Ślaski (fnu). The branch is responsible for the planning of political indoctrination in the KBW.

S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1

S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1

-3-

- b. Branch II, Propaganda Branch (II-g1 Propagandowy), which is headed by Lt. Colonel Pytus (fnu).
- c. Branch III, Branch for Polish United Workers (Communist) Party (PZPR) Affairs (III-g1 Oddzial O/S PZPR), which is headed by Major Szymkowiak (fnu).
- d. Political Training Branch (Wydzial Szkolenia Politycznego), which supplies political indoctrination material and lecturers for the units.
- e. Garrison Branch (Wydzial D/S Garnizonu), which serves the KBW staff only.
- f. Central KBW Officers Club (Centralny Dom Oficerow KBW).
- g. Entertainment Unit.

10. Supply Directorate (Zarząd Tylów KBW), headed by Colonel Rykowski (fnu). The directorate employs approximately 60 officers and has branches for the following:

- a. Rations (Wydzial Zywnosciowy).
- b. Clothing (Wydzial Mundurowy).
- c. Quarters (Wydzial Kwaterunkowy).
- d. Investments (Wydzial Inwestycyjny), building, etc.
- e. Transport Service (Sluzba Samochodowa), which is responsible for motor transport and fuel supplies. The KBW has 1,000 vehicles of all types, operational and service, at its disposal.
- f. Veterinary Medicine (Wydzial Weterynaryjny).
- g. Medical Services (Oddzial Sluzby Zdrowia), which is headed by Colonel Jerzy Osinski.

Subordinate to the Chief of Staff of the "Q" Branch, Major Plaskowski, are the following sections:

- h. Economic Control (Sekcja Inspekcji Gospodarczej).
- i. Economic and Sanitary Training (Sekcja Szkolenia Gosp. i Sanitarnego).
- j. Damage and Loss Investigation (Sekcja Dochodzen Strat i Szkod).
- k. Economic Planning (Sekcja Planowania Gospodarczego).
- l. Rail Transport (Sekcja Transportowo Kolejowa).
- m. Rail transport of personnel and freight, which in its professional aspects is subordinate to Branch IV of General Headquarters (GHQ).
- n. Welfare, Leave Arrangements, Rest Homes, Nursery Schools, etc.

S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1

S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1

-4-

o. Organization (Seksja Organizacyjna), which posts personnel to units for administrative duties.

p. Stores. The central depot of the "O" Directorate is located near the railroad line in the vicinity of Pyramowicza Street in Lodz.

11. Second in Command of Combat Duty (Z-Ca D-cy D/S Liniowych), responsible for the KBW Officers School in Legnica.

12. Artillery Command (D-Ca Artylerii), commanded by Lt. Colonel Leon Helfer, whose deputy is Lt. Colonel Ziolkowski (fnu). The headquarters staff employs approximately 20 officers and comprises the following branches:

a. Armament (Wydział Uzbrojenia).

b. Artillery (Wydział Artylerii),

Responsible for supply of equipment, technical supervision, etc.

c. Armor (Wydział Broni Pancernej), which supplies equipment, technical control, etc. KBW units are not equipped with tanks but have armored cars and halftracks.

d. Training (Wydział Wyszkozenia), which plans training programs for artillery and armored units and assumes charge of artillery firing ranges.

13. Officer in charge of Personnel, Lt. Colonel Feliks Cibulowski, responsible for the following:

a. Combat Officers Branch (Wydział Oficerow Liniowych).

b. Service Officers Branch (Wydział Oficerow Sluzb).

c. The noncommissioned officers and civilian employees.

d. Promotions and Awards Branch (Wydział Awansow i Odznaczen).

14. Finance Section (Wydział Finansowy), headed by Lt. Colonel Szubiga (fnu) and divided into subsections for budget planning, financial reports, accounting, and auditing.

KBW Formations

15. The KBW formations are the following:

a. 1st Special Brigade (1-sza Specjalna Brygada), which is commanded by Colonel Krylinski (fnu). The brigade, stationed on Podchorazych Street in Warsaw, employs approximately 1,950 men and comprises three motorized infantry battalions and one engineers company. It serves as a reserve force of the KBW Command and guards important government installations in Warsaw and vicinity. The brigade is equipped with small arms, such as rifles and submachine guns.

S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1

S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1

-5-

- b. 1st Brigade (1-sza Brygada), which is commanded by Lt. Colonel Pliskin (fnu) and stationed in Gora Kalwaria (N 51-59, E 21-14). The brigade numbers approximately 1,650 men and comprises three battalions, two of which are engaged in operational and one in guarding duties.
- c. 2nd Brigade (2-ga Brygada), which is commanded by Lt. Colonel Krzeminski (fnu) and stationed on Kawaleryjska Street in Bialystok. The brigade numbers approximately 16,50 men and comprises three battalions, one of which is engaged in guard duties, one engineers company, and a squadron of cavalry.
- d. 3rd Regiment (3-ci Pulk), which is commanded by Lt. Colonel Siemaszko (fnu) and stationed in Lublin. The regiment numbers approximately 1,250 men and comprises two battalions.
- e. 4th Battalion (4-ty Batalion), which is stationed in Rzeszow and numbers 700 men.
- f. 5th Regiment (5-ty Pulk), which is commanded by Lt. Colonel Konar (fnu) or Lt. Colonel Piotrowski (fnu). The regiment, which is stationed in the Pychowice quarter of Krakow, numbers approximately 1,450 men and comprises two battalions.
- g. 6th Regiment (6-ty Pulk), which is commanded by Colonel Panasinski (fnu) and stationed in Katowice. The regiment numbers approximately 1,450 men and comprises two battalions, both of which are for guard duties.
- h. 7th Regiment (7-my Pulk), which is commanded by Major Kuriata (fnu) and stationed in Kielce. The regiment numbers approximately 1,250 men and comprises two battalions, one of which is for guard duties.
- i. 8th Battalion, which is stationed in Lodz and numbers approximately 550 men.
- j. 9th Regiment (9-ty Pulk), which is commanded by Lt. Colonel Konwinski (fnu) and stationed in Bydgoszcz (Bromberg). The regiment numbers 1,200 men and comprises two battalions. One of the battalions serves for guard duties at a large explosives depot in the vicinity of the town.
- k. 10th Regiment (10-ty Pulk), which is commanded by Lt. Colonel Lipinski (fnu) and stationed in Poznan. The regiment numbers approximately 1,500 men and comprises two battalions and an independent company, stationed in Zielona Gora (Gruenberg).
- l. 11th Brigade (11-ta Brygada), which is stationed in Jelenia Gora (Hirschberg) and numbers between 1,200 and 1,600 men. One battalion is stationed in Wroclaw (Breslau) and billeted at a camp on Waly Chrobrego Street. The brigade is composed of three battalions.
- m. 12th Regiment (12-ty Pulk), which is stationed in Szczecin (Stettin) and numbers approximately 1,250 men. It is composed of two battalions, both of which are engaged in guard duties.

S-E-C-R-E-T

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25X1

-6-

- n. 13th Regiment (13-ty Pulk), which is commanded by Lt. Colonel Tarasiewicz (fnu) and stationed on Lakowa Street in Gdansk (Danzig). The regiment numbers approximately 1,250 men and comprises two battalions.
- o. 14th Battalion (14-ty Batalion), which is stationed in Olsztyn and numbers approximately 450 men.
- p. 15th Battalion (15-ty Batalion), which is stationed in Prudnik (Neustadt in Oberschlesien, N 50-19, E 17-35), with one company in the city of Opole (Oppeln). The battalion numbers approximately 750 men.
- q. Artillery unit (Dywizjon Artylerii), which is commanded by Major Lewandowski (fnu) and stationed in Koszalin (Koslin). It includes one mortar company (120 m/m), one artillery company (76 m/m) and one antitank company (PTR).
- r. Signals Battalion (Batalion Laczności), which is stationed on Rakowiecka Street in Warsaw and numbers approximately 350 men.
- s. Transport Battalion (Batalion Samochodowy), which is stationed on Rakowiecka Street in Warsaw and numbers approximately 200 men. It has 200 vehicles of all types at its disposal.
- t. Telephone Brigade (W. Cz. Brygada TKN). This unit was disbanded in late 1956 and its duties assumed by the Ministry of Communications, where part of its personnel and equipment were transferred. The brigade was responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of telephone lines throughout the country. It numbered approximately 2,700 men.

KBW Schools

- 16. The KBW Officers School in Legnica. The training program at this school is the same as that at Infantry Officers Schools of MON, with special emphasis on defense against airborne and seaborne assaults. The training course is of three years' duration, and approximately 150 officers graduate each year out of a total of approximately 500 students.
- 17. Communications School for Noncommissioned Officers (Podoficerska Szkoła Laczności) in Prudnik, headed by Major Daniel (fnu). The term of study is nine months and students are divided into two companies: one for line communications and the other for radio/transmitter work.
- 18. Motor Transport School for Noncommissioned Officers (Podoficerska Szkoła Samochodowa) in Lodz, headed by Major Smiganowski (fnu). The term of study is nine months and consists of training for drivers and mechanics; each class numbers approximately 300 men.
- 19. The KBW "Q" Branch Training Center (Ośrodek Szkolenia Kwatermistrzostwa) in Olsztyn. Cooks, storemen and clerks are trained in this school.

KBW During October 1956 Events

- 20. In late October 1956, all KBW units were ordered to stand by. Premier Jozef

S-E-C-R-E-T

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S-E-C-R-E-T

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-7-

Cyrankiewicz summoned General Mus and, in the presence of General Komar, asked him whether the government could rely on him and his corps, whereupon General Mus declared that he and his subordinates were loyal. Upon returning to his headquarters, General Mus confirmed the stand by order, summoned his senior officers and gave them detailed information on the political development. Among other details, he told them that the Soviet units left their camps and were advancing on Warsaw. He described to them the proceedings of the fateful meeting of the Central Committee, at which decisive personnel changes had been instituted.

21. Following instructions issued by Stefan Staszewski, First Secretary of the PZPR Committee in Warsaw, the KBW Command contacted the workers' committee of large plants in Warsaw and students' committees for distributing arms and organizing resistance. The KBW Commander furthermore ordered that all bridges and roads be mined at the approaches to the city and that personnel were to take up their positions. The units were ordered to resist attempts by any military force to break through to the capital without authorization from General Komar. KBW units throughout the country were ordered to observe the movements of Soviet and Polish Army units and submit situation reports every hour. To prevent a possible thrust to the capital by the 1st Division, which was stationed in the Praga quarter of Warsaw, all bridges connecting the city with Praga were mined.
22. In districts where PZPR secretaries supported the Natolin faction, orders were issued to KBW unit commanders to use their own discretion in handling the matter. In Gdansk, for example, the unit commander was instructed to contact Admiral Winiewski (fnu). The overwhelming majority of KBW officers supported Gomulka without reservation, however. Exceptions to this were Colonel Puteczny (fnu), head of the Political Directorate, and Lt. Colonel Ogonowski (fnu), head of the Information Directorate.
23. One of the principal factors behind the general KBW loyalty to Gomulka lay in the fact that there was less Soviet influence over the corps than in other institutions. Although Colonel Abramczuk (fnu) of the MVD was attached to the corps as an adviser from 1950 until 1955, his influence over the corps was negligible. KBW officers showed great eagerness to clear their reputation and prove to the public that they possessed patriotic feelings, in contradiction to the general view that they constituted the Polish arm of the MVD. The corp commanders, particularly General Mus and Colonel Koninski, had always been supporters of the "Polish way to Socialism".
24. KBW officers resented the methods adopted by the GZI and Political Directorate during the October events, which they regarded as provocative. The heads of the GZI and Political Directorate had prepared lists of KBW officers known to be supporters of Gomulka and had planned their arrest in the event the Natolin faction emerged victorious.

Personalities

25. The following persons are in the service of the KBW:

- a. Lt. Col. Feliks Ciburowski, head of the personnel branch at KBW Headquarters

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S-E-C-R-E-T

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S-E-C-R-E-T

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-8-

- b. Major Daniel (fnu), head of the noncommissioned officers signal school and former chief of staff of the TKN brigade

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- c. Lt. Col. Filistowicz (fnu), head of the training branch at KBW Headquarters

- d. Lt. Col. Iliaszewicz (fnu), head of the organization branch at KBW Headquarters,

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- e. Lt. Col. Konwinski (fnu), commanding officer of the 9th Regiment since 1953,

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- f. Lt. Col. Krzeminski (fnu), commanding officer of the 2nd Brigade since 1951,

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- g. Major Kuriata (fnu), commanding officer of the 7th Regiment since 1953

- h. Major Lewandowski (fnu), commanding officer of a KBW artillery unit (division) since 1956

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- i. Colonel Panasinski (fnu), commanding officer of the 6th Regiment of the KBW

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- j. Major Piaskowski (fnu), head of the "Q" Branch since 1956

- k. Lt. Col. Rawski (fnu), head of the operations branch at the KBW Headquarters

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S-E-C-R-E-T

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S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1

-9-

- l. Lt. Col. Siemaszko (fnu), commanding officer of the 3rd Regiment of the KBW since 1951

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- m. Major Skrobisz (fnu), head of the cipher branch at the KBW Headquarters since 1955

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- n. Lt. Col. Slaski (fnu), head of the information services of the Political Directorate of KBW

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- o. Lt. Col. Tarasiewicz (fnu), commanding officer of the 13th Regiment since 1951

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- p. Lt. Col. Ziolkowski (fnu), deputy commander of artillery at the KBW Headquarters

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26. legends and sketches of the following:

- a. Layout of the KBW Headquarters area
- b. Organizational Structure of the KBW Headquarters
- c. Organization of a KBW brigade.

Comment:

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1. Probably Wojsk Wewnetrnych - Interior Troops.

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Attachment "a"

Legend

1. Main gate
2. Headquarters Offices (ground floor structure)
3. Artillery Headquarters " " "
4. Information Directorate " " "
5. Political Directorate " " "
6. Living quarters (four-story building)
7. Garages
8. Guard billet of the transport company
9. Administrative-Economic Branch of the Headquarters (two-story building)
10. Vehicle entrance
11. Stores (ground floor structure)
12. Stores " " "
13. Dining Hall " " "
14. Personnel Branch, dispensary and nursery school (ground floor structure)
15. Rations Store, laundry, hospital, etc.
16. "Q" Branch Directorate and Finance Branch
17. Dining hall and kitchen
18. Central KBW Officers Club
19. Area of the MSW building (a recently constructed building originally intended for use by the Committee of Public Security (KBP)).

Attachment "b"

Legend

1. Ministry of Defense (MON)
2. Ministry of Internal Affairs (MSW)
3. Officer in charge of Internal Security Forces - W.W., includes KBW and WOP.
4. Officer in charge of the KBW
5. Officer in charge of the WOP
6. Head of the Military Bureau
7. Head of the Information Directorate
8. Chief of Staff

- A. Operations Branch (I)
- B. Combat Training Branch (II)
- C. Communications Branch (III)
- D. Organization Branch (IV)
- E. Cipher Branch (V)
- F. Emergency Branch - MOB - (VI)
- G. Administrative-Economic Branch
- H. Garrison Command (Komendantura Garnizonu)
- I. Workshops

9. Head of Political Directorate.

SECRET

25X1

Page 2 of Attachment "b"

- A. Organization Branch (I)
- B. Information Branch (II)
- C. Branch for PZPR Affairs (III)
- D. Training Branch
- E. Garrison Branch
- F. Central KBW Officers Club
- G. Entertainment Unit.

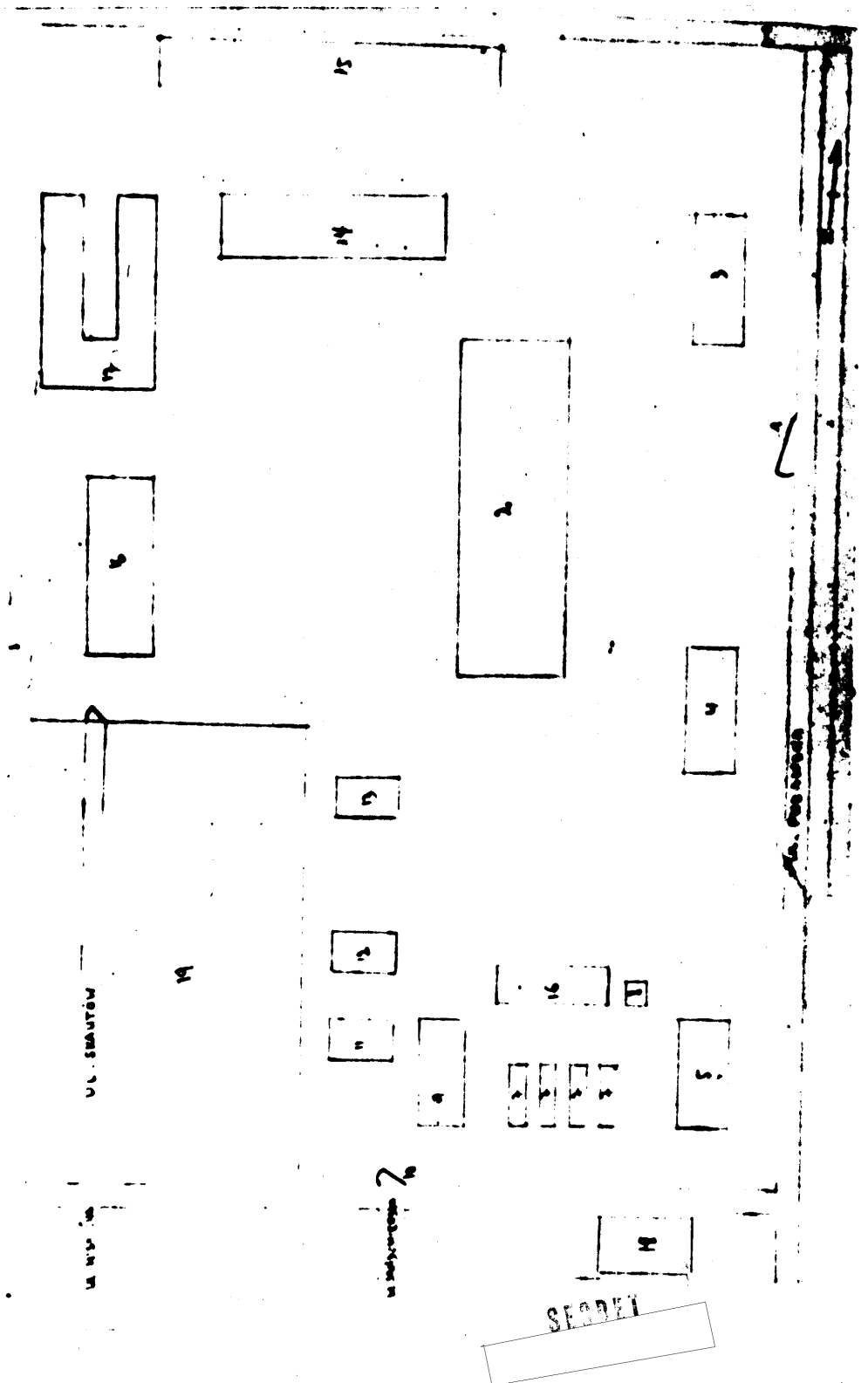
- 10. Chief "O" Branch
- 11. Chief of Staff, "Q" Branch.

- A. Rations Section
- B. Clothing Section
- C. Quarters Section
- D. Investments Section
- E. Medical Section
- F. Veterinary Section
- G. Transport Section
- a. Training Section
- b. Section for investigation of damages and losses
- c. Planning Section
- d. Rail transport section
- e. Welfare section

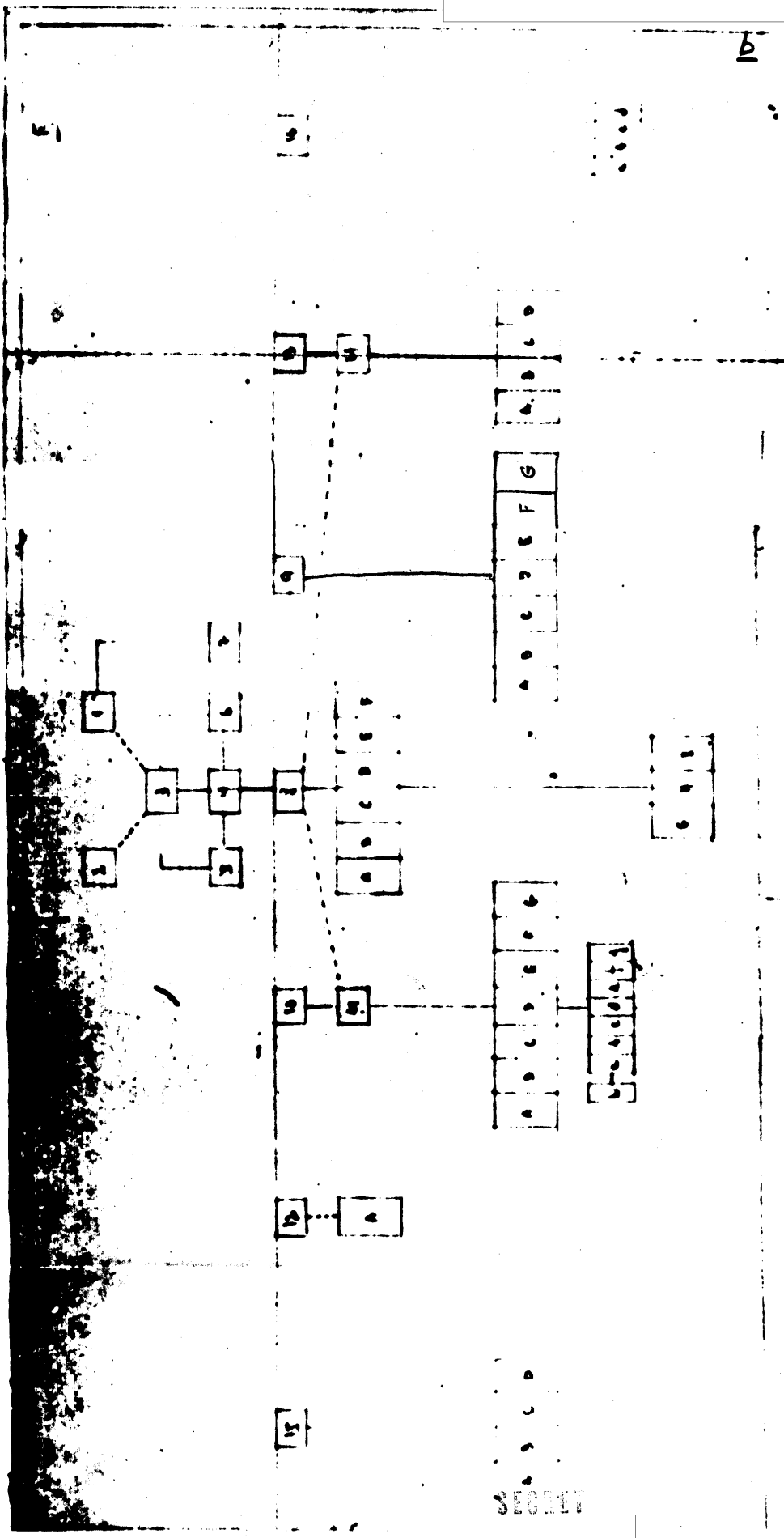
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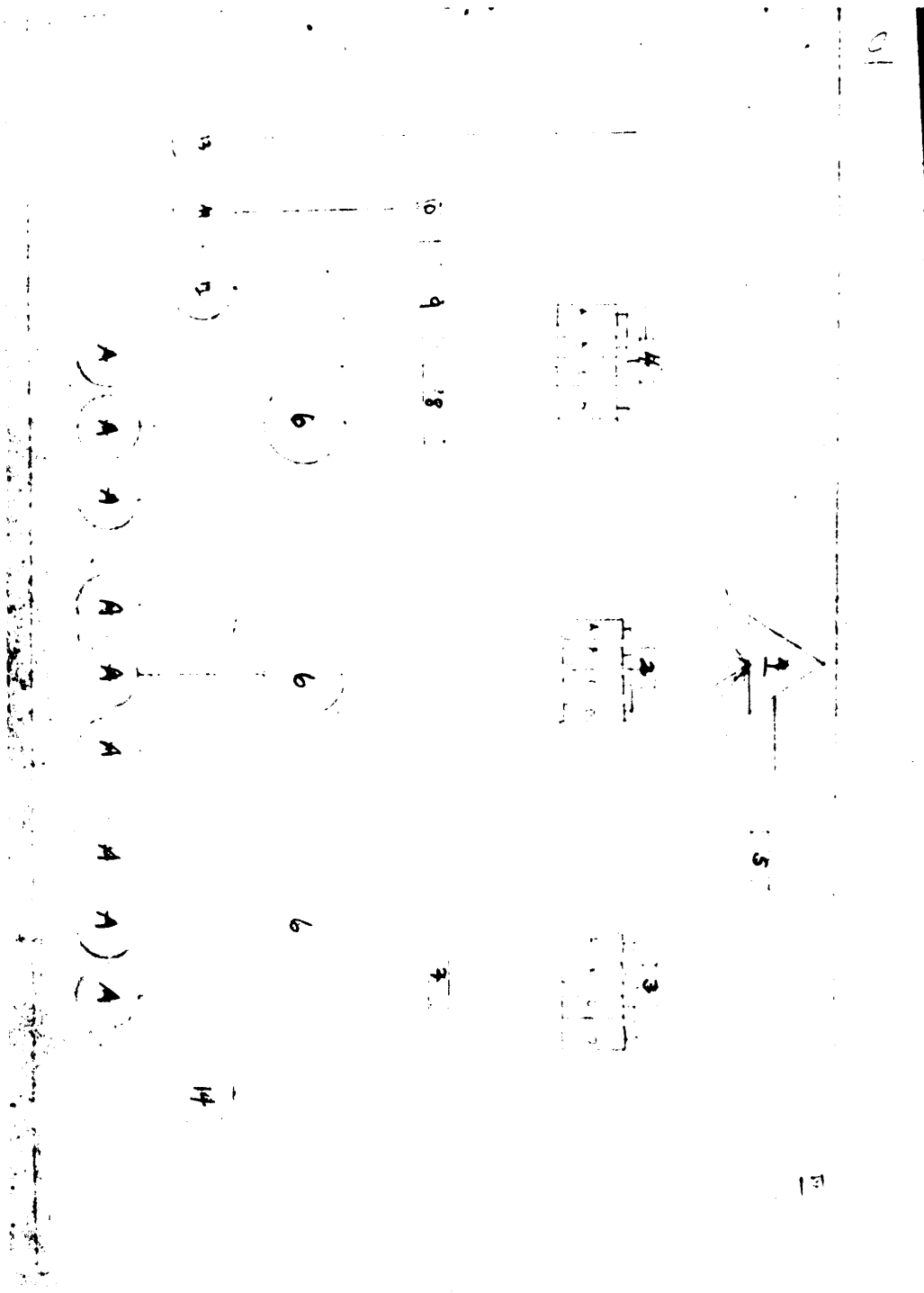
Page 3 of Attachment "b"

- f. Organization Section
 - g. Auditing Section
 - h. Stores
-
- 12. Second in command of combat duties
 - A. KBW Officers School in Legnica
 - 13. Officer in charge of artillery
 - 14. Second in command of artillery
 - A. Armament Branch
 - B. Artillery Branch
 - C. Armor Branch
 - D. Training Branch
 - 15. Officer in charge of Personnel Branch
 - A. Combat Officers Section (Liniowy)
 - B. Services Officers Section (Sluzb)
 - C. Department for noncommissioned officers on regular service and civilian employees.
 - D. Promotions and Awards Section
 - 16. Officer in charge of Financial Branch
 - a. Planning Section
 - b. Reporting Section
 - c. Accounting Section
 - d. Auditing Section

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Attachment "C"

Legend

1. Officer in charge of Brigade
2. Chief of Staff
 - A. Operations Section
 - B. Training Section
 - C. Organization and Personnel Section
 - D. Communications Section
3. Second in command of Political Branch
 - A. Political Indoctrination Section
 - B. PZPR Affairs Section
 - C. ZMP Affairs Section
 - D. Entertainment Section
4. Officer in charge of "Q" Branch
 - A. Clothing Section
 - B. Rations Section
 - C. Billeting and Building Section
 - D. Transport Section
5. Information Officer
6. Three Battalions
 - A. Nine companies (numbered from 1 to 9)
7. Ordnance Officer
8. Medical Officer

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Page 2 of Attachment "c"

9. Pay Officer
10. Officer in charge of technical matters
11. Transport Company
12. Signals Company
13. Administrative-Economic Company
14. Support Company (Field engineers company, heavy machinegun company, or antitank company, etc.).